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**From:** Wirick, Holiday [wirick.holiday@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 10/2/2020 4:56:03 PM  
**To:** Tien, Alysia [Tien.Alysia@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** NDDEQ's proposed amendments to WQS  
**Attachments:** Final\_2020\_WQSTD\_SupportInfo\_Abridged\_Strikeout\_long Version Aug13\_2020.pdf;  
2020\_Complete\_Rule\_Ammendments\_Strikeout\_Color\_NEW.pdf; 2020 Full Notice .pdf

Hi Alysia, I hope all is well and that you and your family have some fun weekend plans!

I just wanted to let you know that I'm working on EPA's letter to NDDEQ on the state's proposed WQS amendments. The public comment period ends October 23.

I'm not sure if the permitting staff typically provide comments at this point of the WQS review process, but please let me know if you'd like to see the draft letter in case you want to add any comments.

The key revisions being proposed are:

- updated ammonia criteria to reflect EPA's 304(a) 2013 recommendations,
- removing site-specific ammonia criteria applied to a segment of the Red River of the North (Fargo - NDDEQ says its WWTP is sufficient to meet 304(a) criteria recommendations),
- updating pH for Class I and IA streams from 7.0 to 9.0 to 6.5 to 9.0 to reflect EPA 304(a) recommendations,
- adding selenium fish flesh criteria,
- proposing to change the example of the hardness-dependent criteria for cadmium, chromium III, copper, lead, nickel, silver, and zinc from a hardness of 100 mg/L to 400 mg/L to reflect hardness in ND waters,
- updated chronic aquatic life mercury criteria from 0.012 ug/L to 0.88 ug/L total recoverable to reflect EPA's 304(a) criteria recommendations, and
- updated language for implementing mixing zone procedures during critical low flow conditions.

My plan is to finish the letter next week. I'm still researching hardness-dependent criteria which I'm going to talk with Maggie about on Tuesday or Wednesday.

Thanks so much - and have a great weekend!

Holly Wirick  
Water Quality Section  
303-312-6238

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**From:** Wax, Peter N. <pwax@nd.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 14, 2020 9:50 AM  
**To:** Wirick, Holiday <wirick.holiday@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Notice

Dear Holly:

The proposed amendments to the standards of water quality for the state (North Dakota) are published at:  
<https://deg.nd.gov/PublicComment/SQWS-20201023.pdf>.

Sincerely,

Peter

Peter N. Wax  
Special Projects  
Division of Water Quality

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